

CSR News Flash

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Dr. Weijia Ni to Be Chief of CSR's Risk, Prevention and Health Behavior Integrated Review Group

The NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR) has named Dr. Weijia Ni as Chief of CSR's [Risk, Prevention and Health Behavior](#) (RPHB) Integrated Review Group (IRG). He has been the Scientific Review Officer of CSR's Language and Communication study section in the Biobehavioral and Behavioral Processes (BBBP) IRG.



"Weijia has distinguished himself as a leader with a deep grasp of the principles of peer review and knowledge of many scientific fields," said CSR Director Dr. Richard Nakamura. "He has done a masterful job leading the Scientific Review Officers at CSR to manage the reviews of applications for the NIH Director's Early Independence Awards."

He then noted the respect Dr. Ni has earned at NIH, "Many people here know Weijia for leading committees that have advanced improvements to the NIH eRA systems and for helping to make life easier for both reviewers and NIH staff. He has also been a valued CSR Referral Officer. For the last 8 years, he has done a wonderful job referring incoming grant applications to RPHB and BBBP."

RPHB comprises seven study sections that review NIH grant applications that cover a wide range of biological, psychological, cultural and social conditions and traits which affect the manifestation, prevention, treatment or management of physical and mental diseases and disorders.

Dr. Ni came to CSR in 2001 from Yale University School of Medicine, where his research focused on speech and reading processing using functional neuroimaging, psychophysiological measurements, and computational modeling. He published findings on distinctive markers of syntactic and semantic processes in eye movement patterns, and in brain activation patterns.

Dr. Ni completed his post-doctoral training in research on speech disorders at Haskins Laboratories after receiving his Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of Connecticut. He is a member of the Academy of Aphasia, and his research on patients with severe brain damage demonstrated that their language functions could be retained or recovered, due largely to cerebral plasticity and functional connectivity.

About CSR

CSR organizes the peer review groups that evaluate the majority of grant applications submitted to NIH. These groups include experienced and respected researchers from across the country and abroad. Since 1946, CSR's mission has been to see that NIH grant applications receive fair, independent, expert, and timely reviews — free from inappropriate influences — so NIH can fund the most promising research. CSR also receives all incoming applications and assigns

them to the NIH Institutes and Centers that fund grants. For more information, go to CSR's Web site— <http://www.csr.nih.gov> —or phone 301-435-1111.

About NIH

NIH — the Nation's Medical Research Agency — includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting basic, clinical and translational medical research, and it investigates the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit <http://www.nih.gov>